This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A <u>computer implemented</u> method for implementing an auction, comprising:

maintaining scheduled event records for a user within a computer database, wherein each scheduled event record indicates a scheduled event for the user at a calendar time slot;

receiving a request for bids for a service from the user indicating a time period, wherein the service is to be performed during a calendar time slot within the indicated time period, wherein the user comprises one of a service provider seeking bidders to purchase services offered by the user and a service user seeking service providers to bid to offer their services;

determining scheduled event records for the user within the indicated time period;

generating a template to display a calendar for the indicated time period showing time slots, wherein an available time slot comprises a time range in the indicated time period that does not include one scheduled event as indicated in the scheduled event records; and

receiving at least one bid for the service for one available time slot in which the service is to be performed, wherein the bid indicates an amount.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein multiple bids may be submitted for each available time slot.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

in response to an expiration of the bidding period, determining at least one bid having a most favorable amount; and

accepting the determined at least one bid.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein accepting the bid further comprises:

notifying the user submitting the request for bids and each originator of each determined bid of the bid acceptance; and

storing information on the accepted bid with information on the received request in the computer database.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the request for bids further indicates a requested frequency indicating a number of multiple bids that will be accepted for the time period indicated in the bid, further comprising:

in response to an expiration of the bidding period, determining up to the indicated number of bids having the most favorable amounts.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the request for bids further indicates at least one time interval within the indicated time period during which one highest bid will be accepted, wherein one bid having the highest amount will be accepted within each time interval within the indicated time period.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the time interval is capable of comprising a day, a week, and a month.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is requesting service providers to bid to provide the service during at least one available time slot within the indicated time period, and wherein the most favorable bid comprises a lowest amount bid.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user is a service provider requesting that clients bid for the user to provide the service during available time slots, further comprising:

in response to an expiration of the bidding period, determining one bid in each of a plurality of available time slots having a highest bid amount for the available time slot if there is at least one bid submitted for the time slot; and

accepting bids having the highest bid ~~amount~~ amounts in ~~each~~ the available time ~~slot~~ slots.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user scheduled event records are used by a personal information manager (PIM) to provide calendaring information to the user independent of the use of the scheduled event records to generate the template indicating available time slots during for which bids may be submitted.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a calendar indicating the scheduled event records within the time period indicated in the request for bids, wherein the calendar is capable of enabling the user to modify scheduled event records and add scheduled event records to further limit the available time slots for which bids can be submitted.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the template displays the time slots indicated in the determined scheduled event records as unavailable.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein each scheduled event record further provides a description of the scheduled event, wherein the template displaying the time slots indicated in the determined scheduled event records as unavailable does not display the description of the scheduled event.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Previously Presented) A personal information manager, comprising:

means for displaying scheduled events of a user for designated calendar time slots, wherein the user comprises one of a service provider seeking bidders to purchase services offered by the user and a service user seeking service providers to bid to offer their services;

means for displaying a bid form indicating a bid for a service to be performed at available time slots void of a scheduled event;

means for receiving input indicating at least one bid for the service to be performed at one available time slot; and

means for submitting the bid form including the received input indicating at least one bid, over a network, for the service during one available time slot.

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Original) The personal information manager of claim 15, further comprising:

means for receiving and displaying information indicating acceptance of the submitted bid, wherein at least one submitted bid having a most favorable amount is accepted.

18.   (Previously Presented) A system for implementing an auction, comprising:

a computer database;

means for maintaining scheduled event records for a user within the computer database, wherein each scheduled event record indicates a scheduled event for the user at a calendar time slot;

means for receiving a request for bids for a service from the user indicating a time period, wherein the service is to be performed during a calendar time slot within the indicated time period, wherein the user comprises one of a service provider seeking bidders to purchase services offered by the user and a service user seeking service providers to bid to offer their services;

means for determining scheduled event records for the user within the indicated time period;

means for generating a template to display a calendar for the indicated time period showing time slots, wherein an available time slot comprises a time range in the indicated time period that does not include one scheduled event as indicated in the scheduled event records; and

means for receiving at least one bid for the service for one available time slot in which the service is to be performed, wherein the bid indicates an amount.

19.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein multiple bids may be submitted for each available time slot.

20.   (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising:

means for determining at least one bid having a most favorable amount in response to an expiration of the bidding period; and

means for accepting the determined at least one bid.

21.   (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the means for accepting the bid further performs:

notifying the user submitting the request for bids and each originator of each determined bid of the bid acceptance; and

storing information on the accepted bid with information on the received request in the computer database.

22.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the request for bids further indicates a requested frequency indicating a number of multiple bids that will be accepted for the time period indicated in the bid, further comprising:

means for determining up to the indicated number of bids having the most favorable amounts in response to an expiration of the bidding period.

23.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the request for bids further indicates at least one time interval within the indicated time period during which one highest bid will be accepted, wherein one bid having the highest amount will be accepted within each time interval within the indicated time period.

24.   (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the time interval is capable of comprising a day, a week, and a month.

25.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the user is requesting service providers to bid to provide the service during at least one available time slot within the indicated time period, and wherein the most favorable bid comprises a lowest amount bid.

26.   (Currently) The system of claim 18, wherein the user is a service provider requesting that clients bid for the user to provide the service during available time slots, further comprising:

means for determining, in response to an expiration of the bidding period, one bid in each of a plurality of available time ~~slot~~ slots having a highest bid amount for the available time slot if

there is at least one bid submitted for the time slot in response to an expiration of the bidding period; and

means for accepting ~~each bid~~ bids having the highest bid ~~amount~~ amounts in ~~each~~ the available time slots ~~slot~~.

27.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the user scheduled event records are used by a personal information manager (PIM) to provide calendaring information to the user independent of the use of the scheduled event records to generate the template indicating available time slots during for which bids may be submitted.

28.   (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising:

means for displaying a calendar indicating the scheduled event records within the time period indicated in the request for bids, wherein the calendar is capable of enabling the user to modify scheduled event records and add scheduled event records to further limit the available time slots for which bids can be submitted.

29.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the template displays the time slots indicated in the determined scheduled event records as unavailable.

30.   (Original) The system of claim 29, wherein each scheduled event record further provides a description of the scheduled event, wherein the template displaying the time slots indicated in the determined scheduled event records as unavailable does not display the description of the scheduled event.

31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Currently Amended) ~~An article of manufacture including code for implementing~~ A computer readable medium comprising computer readable code that when executed implements an auction by performing operations, the operations comprising:

maintaining scheduled event records for a user within a computer database, wherein each scheduled event record indicates a scheduled event for the user at a calendar time slot;

receiving a request for bids for a service from the user indicating a time period, wherein the service is to be performed during a calendar time slot within the indicated time period, wherein the user comprises one of a service provider seeking bidders to purchase services offered by the user and a service user seeking service providers to bid to offer their services;

determining scheduled event records for the user within the indicated time period;

generating a template to display a calendar for the indicated time period showing time slots, wherein an available time slot comprises a time range in the indicated time period that does not include one scheduled event as indicated in the scheduled event records; and

receiving at least one bid for the service for one available time slot in which the service is to be performed, wherein the bid indicates an amount.

33.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 32, wherein multiple bids may be submitted for each available time slot.

34.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 32, further comprising:

in response to an expiration of the bidding period, determining at least one bid having a most favorable amount; and

accepting the determined at least one bid.

35.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 34, wherein accepting the bid further comprises:

notifying the user submitting the request for bids and each originator of each determined bid of the bid acceptance; and

storing information on the accepted bid with information on the received request in the computer database.

36.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 34, wherein the request for bids further indicates a requested frequency indicating a number of multiple bids that will be accepted for the time period indicated in the bid, further comprising:

in response to an expiration of the bidding period, determining up to the indicated number of bids having the most favorable amounts.

37.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable medium of claim 34, wherein the request for bids further indicates at least one time interval within the indicated time period during which one highest bid will be accepted, wherein one bid having the highest amount will be accepted within each time interval within the indicated time period.

38.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable medium of claim 37, wherein the time interval is capable of comprising a day, a week, and a month.

39.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable medium of claim 34, wherein the user is requesting service providers to bid to provide the service during at least one available time slot within the indicated time period, and wherein the most favorable bid comprises a lowest amount bid.

40.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable medium of claim 34, wherein the user is a service provider requesting that clients bid for the user to provide the service during available time slots, further comprising:

in response to an expiration of the bidding period, determining one bid in each of a plurality of available time slots having a highest bid amount for the available time slot if there is at least one bid submitted for the time slot; and

accepting bids having the highest bid amounts in ~~each~~ the available time ~~slot~~ slots.

41.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ computer readable medium of claim 34, wherein the user scheduled event records are used by a personal information manager (PIM) to provide calendaring information to the user independent of the use of the scheduled event records to generate the template indicating available time slots during for which bids may be submitted.

42.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 34, further comprising:

displaying a calendar indicating the scheduled event records within the time period indicated in the request for bids, wherein the calendar is capable of enabling the user to modify scheduled event records and add scheduled event records to further limit the available time slots for which bids can be submitted.

43.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 34, wherein the template displays the time slots indicated in the determined scheduled event records as unavailable.

44.   (Currently Amended) The ~~article of manufacture~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim 43, wherein each scheduled event record further provides a description of the scheduled event, wherein the template displaying the time slots indicated in the determined scheduled event records as unavailable does not display the description of the scheduled event.

45.   (Canceled)